

Political nonsense

On page one of Tuesday's *Gateway* we have a story about that old 'pol', Nick Taylor, which proves nothing more than that the leader of the Alberta Liberal Party could benefit from attending sessions of Dr. Klawe's Economics 200 course.

On page four we have the Young Communist League laying such profundities on us as: the government must cut "the work week to 30 hours with no reduction in take-home pay."

This leaves me wondering how they intend to cut production 25% across the board (and immediately) and still leave the workers with a comparable standard of living. If this happened the workers would receive the same amount of money, granted, but the amount of goods available for purchase with that money would have dropped 25%; so prices would go up 25% and the workers standard of living in real terms would drop 25%. That's the promised land the Communists would like to take us to. They're going to part the waters but let us drown before we're half-way across!

All this letter proves is that they too should arrange some sessions with Dr. Klawe; or better yet, they should arrange for some sessions with a Grade 1 teacher so that they could learn that four minus one does not equal four, or that 100% minus 25% does in no conceivable way give you 100% again.

So after reading all this serious political nonsense (Profound questions of the day: is all nonsense political in origin? Or are all things political, nonsense in origin? Or are both questions asking the same thing? Or are both questions nonsense? Hmmm...), it was a relief to read Students' Union Presidential Candidate Wayne Chase's forthright presentation of his qualifications and platform.

Although it appears that Mr. Chase has the basic political qualifications for office (he is a master of both the arts of Orwellian double-talk, and the making of assinine campaign promises). In the area of technical qualifications his major flaw seems to be that he is honest, as evidenced by the fact that when he was allowed to count the Treasury money in Grade 8, he didn't steal any! You have no future in politics, Mr. Chase.

I am concerned about some aspects of his platform. How can I trust a politician who promises a chicken in every pot (Chase is obviously a lackey for that Imperialist, warmongering, running dog,

capitalist, Colonel Sanders! Karl Marx save us!); who promises a cigar in every box (The Red Menace is upon us! Castro has invaded Canadian shores! Save us, John Birch!); an ear in every muff (I've never met the gentleman, I'm afraid); who promises a banana in every split (This last promise obviously has deep and significant sexual connotations which I'm sure Freud would have attributed to a repressed Oedipal complex; but since I have the uneasy feeling that Germaine Greer is somehow peering over my shoulder as I write this, and not wanting to incur the wrath of this God of the female chauvinists, I will say no more on the subject.)?

In spite of all these distressing points, I think I'll vote for you, Wayne Chase. I mean, a candidate whose campaign manager got a 2 in French 100 can't be all bad!

Finally, I just want to say that it's a pleasure to know that there is at least one other person in the world besides myself who takes politics at its face value, recognizing it as the embarrassing farce it truly is.

Brent Bissell

Lesser evil

People are saying that artificial contraception and acceptable family planning are alternatives to abortion. Where is their evidence?

Are intrauterine devices (coils, loops) sometime abortifacients? "Contraception" by pills "after the fact" (now called interception) is abortion clearly.

In New York last year some abortionists sought an alternative to their killing and a report had it that "despite intensive family planning counselling, repeat abortions appeared".

Reasons for contraceptive failure and abortion relapse were given and wonder was expressed.

Did the abortionists think that the devil would settle for a lesser evil? Morally acceptable family planning is too much like hard work and therefore, especially for the men, has become the unacceptable method generally!

Contraception can never be objectively good, the experts and guides say. One does not replace an evil (abortion) by another, albeit lesser evil (contraception). One replaces evil by what is good.

I cannot bet away from the cause-effect relationship in sex and possible pregnancy. I believe that if I do not respect the sex act (life is involved), I

will not respect the consequence (new life).

If I wish to become an abortionist I believe that I should begin by becoming a contraceptionist. "It should be emphasized that the promotion of contraception inevitably leads to the promotion of abortion", writes well-known sociologist Paul Marx, Ph.D.

Let us note, too, the words of Anthony Zimmerman of Japan who spoke from the vast experience of abortions in his country. (Japan has been "hard at it" killing the unborn, in effect, for the asking, since 1948). Zimmerman in a "Criticism of Assumptions and Objections of the Manila Population Seminar" (1973) said: "Dreamers and naive people might still believe that it is possible to launch a national population control policy successfully via mass media, the manipulation of public opinion and economic incentives with the expectation that no great increase in abortions will follow. But country after country has exploded the dream. The hard fact is that Anti-birth policy and abortion is a package purchase. You can't buy one without the other."

One gets the impression that some think that new life arises in the women spontaneously and the phrases "life from the father" and "life from the mother" are outdated. Perhaps we are regressing scientifically (spontaneous generation theory) as well as morally.

The alternative to abortion is self-management and this includes sex control and not so-called birth control. Logically, it might seem that preventing life's existence on a widespread scale would solve the abortion problem.

Clearly, things do not work that way. Life is larger than logic.

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Reprinted from *Dok Tok*, Vol. 1, No. 6.

Insolent youth

After contacting the university stating my concern regarding university students (especially the young men) who do not offer their seats to older women and men when the bus is crowded, they suggested I write *Gateway*. Many of the middle aged women who travel the bus are working and are on their feet part, if not all of the day, and I think it disgraceful that young people do not have the common courtesy to give up their seat. It has been suggested that young men feel it is not necessary because of women's

liberation - what is your excuse, Mrs. I MacDonell? I think that both of you would be more considerate of our elders.

I realize that many parents must have neglected to bring up their children to know any better, as I find the school children pushing their way onto the bus so that they will be sure of a seat and mothers allowing their pre-schoolers to occupy a seat whilst others stand.

In closing, if this letter should appeal to your better nature and you are overburdened with books, I for one would gladly hold your books for you, if you were thoughtful enough to offer me a seat. Here's hoping.

Mrs. I MacDonell

Draconian method

In his letter of Jan. 28, 1975, Fred Ustina attempts to discredit the campaign in defense of Valentyn Moroz by the use of various unqualified statements and an attempt to link it to an apparently sinister plot by certain "elements" in Canada, who will use draconian methods to deprive Canadians of "some of the freedoms that we cherish so much" and cause out children to "suffer because of our oversight". The logic and reasoning behind such a rationalization hardly seems worthy of an individual who has pursued his education to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

Prof. Ustina seems to have taken offence to E. Harasymiw's letter (which appeared in Jan. 24 edition of the *Edmonton Journal*) expressing his views on Alderman David Leadbeater's opposition to City Council's resolution of January 14, in which the city of Edmonton called on the federal government to press for the unconditional release of Valentyn Moroz.

According to Prof. Ustina, the essence of this letter is that "it tells us that these elements claim the freedom of expression for themselves, they feel that others, be they even elected officials, should be silenced, and should refrain from expressing their views". Again Prof. Ustina has erred in his reasoning, since if he had read the article a little more carefully, he would have noticed that Mr. Harasymiw made it perfectly clear he was not disputing Ald. Leadbeater's right to voice his disapproval of the motion in question, but was taking issue with the rather dilute arguments with which he supported his position. As Voltaire once said, I may not agree with what you say, but I will defend to death your right to say it.

In paraphrasing Ald. *continued on page 10*

Gateway

Volume LXV, Number 36
January 30, 1975.

Published bi-weekly by the University of Alberta Students' Union, in the Gateway offices, Room 282, Students' Union Building.

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CIRCULATION

Circulation 18,000. The Gateway publishes on Tuesday and Thursday during the Fall and Winter Session. It is distributed to the students and to the academic and non-academic staff on campus.
Subscription rates: 54 issues, \$7.00
Circulation Manager: Jim Hagerty

PRODUCTION

Ad make-up, layout, and typesetting done by Student Media, University of Alberta, Room 238, Students' Union Building.
Production Mgr: Loreen Lennon
Typesetter: Margriet Tilroe-West

ADVERTISING

No mats accepted. National and local advertising \$28 per agate line.
Classified ad rate \$1.00 per issue. All classified ads must be prepaid.
Advertising Mgr: Lorne Holladay
432-4241

FOOTNOTES

Publicizes campus events or those of interest to students, without charge. Footnotes forms available at the Gateway office and should be submitted before 2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays.
Footnotes Editor: Cathy Zlatnik

LETTERS

Submit all letters, typed and double spaced to the Editor, who reserves the right to edit the copy. Regular copy deadlines apply. Editorial comments are the opinion of the writer, not necessarily that of The Gateway.

GRAPHICS

Submit all graphics and cartoons, by copy deadlines to:
Graphics Editor: Gary Kirk

COPY DEADLINES

Monday noon for the Tuesday edition. Wednesday noon for the Thursday edition.

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The Gateway is a member of the Intercollegiate Press and The Earth News Service.

